

## REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 27-52.

The above amendment is responsive to points set forth in the Final Rejection.

In this regard, new claims 27-52 replace previous claims 1-26, respectively.

The new main claim is 27 and it has been amended to further define the features and advantages of the present invention over the prior art. Thus, in claim 27, there has been added the phrase “wherein...” to “(B) a hydrolysis condensate (component b)”.

Thus, the feature that “methyltrialkoxysilane constitutes at least 70 % of by weight of the entire trialkyloxysilanes” has been added to the definition of component b.

This feature is supported by the present specification at page 28, lines 2-4.

With regard to the objection to claims 9-12, these have been rewritten as new claims 35-38, respectively in which the symbols objected to have now been defined.

Claims 3-5, 10-12 and 19-26 have been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim said to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

These claims now appear as 29-31, 36-38 and 45-52, respectively.

Previous claims 1, 2, 6, 8 and 13-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Nakayama (JP 59-109528) and claims 7 and 9 have been rejected as unpatentable over Nakayama. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

A discussion of the present invention will be of assistance in appreciating Applicants' reasons for traversal of the rejections.

The present invention provides a coating layer having excellent abrasion resistance with the above-recited features.

A declaration in support of the fact that (i) Nakayama is utterly silent about component b of the present invention and that (ii) a coating layer having excellent abrasion resistance is formed

in contrast to Nakayama, will be provided in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

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